It was also suggested that couples having more than two children should not be eligible for employment in Government or private companies, bank loans or business contracts from Government or Government-owned corporations etc.

National Population Policy 2000, proposes to achieve population stabilisation through voluntary informed choices offered to the couples to limit their family size, by fulfilling unmet need for contraception, health care infrastructure, and trained health personnel.

Ten States/UTs have already achieved the replacement levels of fertility without using incentives or disincentives and another eleven States likely to achieve replacement levels soon.

Nevertheless, the National Population Policy 2000 privides for some promotional and motivational measures as rewards for achievement of family welfare and demographic indicators.

Polio cases

75. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's claim that there are no cases of polio in the country have proved false as polio case have come to the notice in the past few months, as reported in the Times of India, dated the 3rd September, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are wasting crores of rupees every year on polio eradication drive; and

(d) if so, the amount spent by Government on such drive during the past three years and the steps Government propose to take to eradicate this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Government has never claimed that there are no cases of polio in the country.

The national goal is to eradicate polio in the country and obtain international polio free certification by 2005. The annual strategies for

achieving this goal are formulated and implemented by the Government on the basis of advice of a group of national and international experts. Government is taking all possible measures to achieve this goal.

The Intensified Pulse Polio Programme was started in 1995-96. Under this programme, the States are given polio vaccine in kind and funds for operational activities required for implementing the programme. The amount spent by the Government on this programme during 2001-02 to 2002-03 is as under:-

Year	Rs. in crores
2000-01	396
2001-02	398
2002-03	443

Strikes by staff and doctors

†76. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the strikes by the staff and doctors of Government hospitals and CGHS dispensaries in National Captial Territory of Delhi during the last one year as a result of which public and poor persons had to face great difficulties;

(b) the reasons for strikes by the doctors and staff of concerned hospitals/dispensaries;

(c) whether Government have taken any necessary action against such employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.